

[23rd April 1959]

Repairing of Muniappa Eri in Pothuvai village

* 94 Q.—SRI K. GOPALA KOUNDER : கனம் ரெவினியூ அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் தயவு செய்து பதிலளிப்பாரா—

(அ) செஞ்சி தாலுகாவில் போத்துவாய் கிராமத்தில், முனைப்பா ஏரி உடைப்பெடுத்து எத்தனை வருடமாகிறது ?

(ஆ) அதை ஏன் இன்னும் மராமத்து செய்யவில்லை ?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) The Muniappa tank fell into disrepairs during the floods of 1947 and the calingula, etc., of the tank was completely washed away in the floods of December 1953.

(b) An estimate amounting to Rs. 13,000 was sent by the Collector, South Arcot, to the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Cuddalore, five years back for technical approval and it was recast into one amounting to Rs. 38,000 after inspection by the Executive Engineer. The Collector of South Arcot has in consultation with the Executive Engineer (Food Production), Madras, given his concurrence to the taking up of the work under Special Minor Irrigation Programme during the current year 1958-59 itself.

SRI K. GOPALA KOUNDER : இந்த வருஷத்திலேயே வேலை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்படும் முடிக்கப்பட்டுவிடுமா ?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : சின்ன வேலைதான். அனைக்க மாசு முடிந்துவிடும்.

Handloom fabrics

* 95 Q.—SRI A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to conduct Fashion Parade in district headquarters to popularize handloom fabrics?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : No, Sir.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware that mill owners have adopted this medium for popularising their cloths? Why not the Government adopt such medium for popularising handloom fabrics?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The Government have other proposals. They have the 'Handloom Week' in all district headquarters, and propaganda is done for handlooms.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Sir, since this work of popularising handloom goods is left entirely to the Handloom Board, which is not in a position to do as much as it possibly should do, will the Government reconsider the possibility of popularising handlooms as they have done in the matter of calico mill cloth?

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THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The premise is wrong. The Handloom Board is able to do a great deal of propaganda for handlooms. It is true that mill goods want the same propaganda, and that is why mill-owners are resorting to these shows.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : Sir, what is the result of the Government's propaganda for handloom goods?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Increased sales.

Appointment of women conductors and drivers in State Transport buses

* 96 Q.—**SRI A. A. RASHEED :** Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to appoint women as conductors and drivers in the State Transport buses?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : No, Sir.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : Is the Hon. Minister aware that women are as capable as men for the posts of bus conductors and bus drivers?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The experience of the Madras Government has been different. I understand that some years ago when you were the Mayor, I think, a committee was constituted for the purpose of recruiting women conductors and about 8 to 10 conductors were recruited, but when they were put on duty they were found not to be able to cope up with the peak hour traffic. So, those people were transferred to office work. In the light of our experience, I am afraid we cannot accept the suggestion of Sri Rasheed.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Admitting the proposition that women could not cope up with the work during peak hours in the buses, will the Government think of posting them as stand conductors at least in bus termini so that they could also be properly employed as men?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I do not think it is necessary. Because, the stand conductors are interchanged with bus conductors and therefore it is not possible to do that.

SRIMATHI KAMALAMBUJA AMMAL : பெண்களுக்கு கண்டக்டர் வேலை கொடுக்காவிட்டாலும் டிரைவர் வேலையாவது கொடுப்பார்களா ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : இந்தக் கேள்வியை கனம் அங்கத்தினரிடமிருந்து நான் எதிர் பார்க்கவில்லை. இப்பெழுதுள்ள பஸ்கள் எல்லாம் ஹெவி டீயு பஸ்கள். சாதாரணமாக ஆண்களே அதை மாணேஜ் பண்ணமுடியவில்லை. பெண்கள் அவைகளை எப்படி மாணேஜ் பண்ண முடியும் ? பெண்கள் தெருவி டீயு பஸ்களை மாணேஜ் பண்ண முடியும் என்று நான் நினைக்கவில்லை.